JAP20Rec'offill 11 MAY 2006

New PCT National Phase Application Docket No. 2691-000044/US

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Yasushi KOBUCHI et al.

Int'l App. No.:

PCT/JP2004/016521

Application No.:

NEW APPLICATION

Filed:

May 11, 2006

For:

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SEPARATOR (as amended)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314 Mail Stop PCT May 11, 2006

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application. Prior to examination of the present application, please consider the following:

Amendments to the Title begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 3 of this Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 4 of this Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 5 of this Preliminary Amendment.

	Claims remaining after Amendment		Highest number previously paid for		Present extra
Total	16	-	20	=	0
Independent	1	-	3	=	0